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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

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**IDHS ANNOUNCES COUNTIES ELIGIBLE FOR LOAN PROGRAM FOR RECOVERY FROM
RECENT SEVERE WEATHER**

Indianapolis – The Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) received notice today the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) approved Governor Daniels' request for disaster financial assistance for damages sustained during the severe weather and tornadoes that affected Indiana March 31 through April 9. The approval means homeowners and businesses in affected counties are eligible now for the SBA's Disaster Loan program.

Homeowners and businesses who sustained damage in the following counties are eligible for the U.S. SBA Disaster Loan program:

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|---------------|------------|--------------|
| • Bartholomew | • Jackson | • Orange |
| • Crawford | • Johnson | • Pike |
| • Davies | • Knox | • Rush |
| • Decatur | • Lawrence | • Shelby |
| • Dubois | • Marion | • Washington |
| • Greene | • Martin | |
| • Hancock | • Monroe | |

"IDHS is pleased the U.S. SBA has once again acted promptly in responding to the Governor's request for assistance," said J. Eric Dietz, IDHS Executive Director. "For over a week this early spring, Indiana experienced several rounds of severe weather which adversely impacted numerous homeowners and businesses. The SBA loan program will enable impacted Hoosiers to access financial resources to rebuild their property and their lives."

The U. S. SBA's Disaster Loan program includes two types of loans, the physical disaster loan and the economic injury disaster loan. The physical disaster loan application deadline is June 12, 2006 and the economic injury disaster loan application deadline is January 16, 2007.

Homeowners or businesses who wish to apply for a loan or have questions concerning the U.S. SBA Disaster Loans can contact the SBA's Disaster Assistance Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955, go to www.sba.gov/disaster, or visit a temporary U.S. SBA office. The locations and hours of operation of the temporary U.S. SBA offices in Indiana will be announced early next week.

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